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Economic and Social Council

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Agenda item 1
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Postponed election of one expert to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues from among candidates nominated by Governments

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Secretary-General has received a nomination from the Government of Estonia to fill the upcoming vacancy on the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.[1] The candidate is Merike **Kokajev**.

2. The term of office is three years, beginning 1 January 2005. Biographical information on the candidate is given below.

Merike Kokajev

Date of birth 10 September 1956

Nationality Estonian

Education

1982	St. Petersburg State University
1996	Ecole Administration Publique, Paris

Languages French, English, Russian

Diplomatic career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

1991-1992	Protocol Department, Second Secretary
1992-1995	Embassy of Estonia in Brussels, Second Secretary

[1] See Council decision 2004/201 C for information on seven experts previously elected by the Council.

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1995-1998	Protocol Department, Deputy Chief of Protocol
1998-1999	Protocol Department, Acting Chief of Protocol
1999-2002	Permanent Mission of Estonia to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations in Geneva; deputy head of Mission
2002	Political Department, Division of International Organisations, Director of Division

Participation in international forums

1999-2004	Commission on Human Rights
1999-2002	Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights
1999-2002	Working Group to elaborate a draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples
1999-2001	Open-ended intersessional ad hoc working group on a permanent forum for indigenous people

Honours

Commander of the Order of Merit of Norway

Commander of the Order of Honour of Greece